

Tempe Fire Department Policies and Procedures
Safety Sector
206.02
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PURPOSE

The recognition of situations which present an unusual hazard to personnel, and the proper response to those situations, is of critical importance in all Fire Department operations. This procedure establishes a standard system for providing safety guidance at major incidents, through the implementation of a Safety Sector.

This procedure in no way diminishes the responsibility of each and every member of the Tempe Fire Department to work within safety procedures at all times and the responsibility of officers for the safety of their assigned personnel.

POLICY

A safety sector must be established during multiple alarm fires, significant hazardous materials incidents, or other special hazard situations (i.e., trench rescue, confined space rescue, high angle or technical rescue, etc.) that pose an actual or potential special hazard or unusual risk to personnel. The safety officer will be notified to respond to any of the above cited situations.

PROCEDURE

The safety chief officer will report to Command and will normally assume the Safety Sector responsibilities upon his arrival at the incident (as directed by Command).

Command has the responsibility to recognize situations requiring the implementation of a safety sector. Command will utilize an on-site company or chief officer as a safety officer until the arrival of the safety chief officer.

Safety Sector responsibilities include:

- A. Observe operations for proper compliance with safety procedures and precautions by all personnel and interact with companies and Command to correct any problems.
- B. Observe structural or hazardous on-site conditions which could present a safety hazard. Coordinate site activities with Command, and establish communication with Fire Prevention and Building Safety.
- C. Assure proper use of protective clothing and equipment by all personnel in operating areas.
- D. Monitor condition of personnel for signs of exhaustion and effect of products of combustion or toxic materials.

Personnel assigned to the Safety Sector, recognizing a safety problem, must take appropriate action to cause its correction.

The command structure shall be used to effect appropriate response to a safety problem. Safety Sector personnel will communicate with Command and sector officers to mitigate identified safety concerns.

When the urgency of the situation demands it, Safety Sector personnel will have full authority to cause immediate action by direct order to any personnel or by use of "Emergency Traffic." In all cases Command must be advised of serious safety problems and corrective action must be coordinated through Command.

Operating personnel receiving safety instructions from Safety Sector personnel shall immediately take appropriate action.